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RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC
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DEPT FOR AF/E N. GAREY, AF/S R. MARBURG

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/16/2017

TAGS: PREL SO SF

SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICA MULLING RECONCILIATION PROGRAM FOR

SOMALI NGRC MEMBERS

Classified By: Political Counselor Raymond Brown. Reasons 1.4(b) and (d).

(C) The South African Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) is debating internally the possible SAG funding of a reconciliation program for members of the Somali National Governance and Reconciliation Committee (NGRC), according to Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) Deputy Director for the Horn of Africa Phindile Xaba (protect). The idea behind the program would be to bring the Committee members to Pretoria to share South Africa's own experiences with reconciliation following the end of apartheid. DFA would like to recruit one of the South African non-governmental organizations with experience in reconciliation initiatives (such as the Human Rights Commission, the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation (IJR), or the Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation (CSVR)) to organize the program. Xaba noted that the SAG remained concerned about the "inclusiveness" of the Somali reconciliation process, and that this was a factor weighing against proceeding with their initiative at this time. Bost